AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A preparation of mammalian cells possibly transfected with at least one gene coding for an active substance, ~~to be administered~~ capable of systemic~~ally in~~ administration to a subject, characterised in that it comprises no aggregate of said cells of a size liable to induce transient or permanent malfunctions in said ~~patent~~ subject.

2. (Previously presented) The preparation of mammalian cells according to claim 1, characterised in that it comprises no aggregates of said cells of a size greater than approximately 200 microns, preferentially greater than 50 microns and more preferentially greater than 30 microns.

3. (Previously presented) The preparation of mammalian cells according to claim 1, characterised in that said cells are immortalised.

4. (Previously presented) The preparation of mammalian cells according to claims 1, characterised in that the cells are non-tumorigenic.

5. (Currently amended) The preparation of mammalian cells according to claim 1, characterised in that said cells are ~~selected from a group comprising mammalian endothelial cells and~~ epithelial cells.

6. (Currently amended) The preparation of mammalian cells according to claim 1, characterised in that said cells are ~~selected from a group comprising cerebral and~~ retinal cells.

7. (Previously presented) The preparation of mammalian cells according to any of claims 1 to 6, characterised in that said cells have undergone a biological, chemical or physical treatment preventing aggregate formation or specifically eliminating the aggregate of said cells of a size greater than approximately 200 microns, preferentially greater than 50 microns and more preferentially greater than 30 microns, and then suspended in a medium enabling their survival and not favouring their re-aggregation.

8. (Previously presented) The preparation of mammalian cells according to claim 7, characterised in that the biological treatment consists of genetically modifying said cells with a nucleic acid sequence expressing an agent ~~preventing~~ that has the capacity to prevent aggregate formation or inhibit~~ing~~ the expression of an agent favouring the formation of aggregates of said cells.

9. (Previously presented) The preparation of mammalian cells according to claim 7, characterised in that the physical treatment consists of a filtration or screening.

10. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical formulation to be administered systemically in a subject, characterised in that it comprises a cell preparation according to ~~any of~~ claims 1 ~~to 9~~, combined in said formulation with a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle enabling the survival of said cells and not favouring their re-aggregation.

11. (Previously presented) The formulation according to claim 10 to be administered by the intra-arterial, advantageously intra-carotid, route, in a patient, characterised in that it comprises a cell preparation comprising no aggregate of said cells greater than 50 microns in size and preferentially greater than 30 microns.

12. (Previously presented) The formulation according to claim 10 to be administered by the

intravenous route, in a subject, characterised in that it comprises a cell preparation comprising no aggregate of said cells greater than 200 microns in size and preferentially greater than 100 microns.

13. (Previously presented) The formulation according to any of claims 10 to 12, characterised in that it comprises of the order of 1000 to 300,000 cells per microlitre of formulation.

14. (Currently amended) The formulation according to ~~any one of~~ claims 10 ~~to 13~~ to be administered systemically, advantageously by the intra-arterial route, in a gene therapy method for a disease of the central nervous system in a subject, characterised in that the cells are transfected with at least one gene coding for an active substance in the treatment or prevention of a disease of the nervous system.

15. (Previously presented) The formulation according to claim 14, characterised in the active substance or gene in the treatment or prevention of a disease of the nervous system is chosen form the growth factors, anti-apoptotic factors, killer genes, antiproteases, immunommodulators, tumour suppressor genes, genes inhibiting the cell cycle.

16. (Previously presented) The formulation according to claim 14, characterised in that it is assayed so as to enable an administration of 1 million to 200 million immortalised mammalian cells transfected with at least one gene coding for an active substance per kilogram of weight of the subject to be treated.